

Message

From: Overstreet, Anne [overstreet.anne@epa.gov]
Sent: 5/1/2020 2:13:45 PM
To: Bohnenblust, Eric [Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov]
CC: McNally, Robert [McNally.Robert@epa.gov]; Mendelsohn, Mike [Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Final OPP Update

That's great, thanks Eric.



Anne Overstreet, Deputy Director
Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division
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(703) 308-8068
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<http://www.epa.gov/pesticides>

From: Bohnenblust, Eric <Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 01, 2020 10:13 AM
To: Overstreet, Anne <overstreet.anne@epa.gov>
Cc: McNally, Robert <McNally.Robert@epa.gov>; Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Final OPP Update

The documents were loaded as of a little over an hour ago.

Eric Bohnenblust, Ph.D
Senior Biologist
Emerging Technologies Branch (ETB)
Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division (BPPD)
Phone: 703-347-0426
Email: Bohnenblust.eric@epa.gov

From: Overstreet, Anne <overstreet.anne@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 1, 2020 10:11 AM
To: Keigwin, Richard <Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov>; McNally, Robert <McNally.Robert@epa.gov>; Overbey, Dian <Overbey.Dian@epa.gov>; Siedschlag, Gregory <Siedschlag.Gregory@epa.gov>
Cc: Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>; Bohnenblust, Eric <Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Final OPP Update

Hi Rick, Bob contacted Delores and her team is expediting review of the documents that Eric has (or is) loading into the docket.

The announcement has been pushed to Monday per the note that Greg just sent.

Anne



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From: Keigwin, Richard <Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 01, 2020 10:08 AM
To: McNally, Robert <McNally.Robert@epa.gov>; Overbey, Dian <Overbey.Dian@epa.gov>; Siedschlag, Gregory <Siedschlag.Gregory@epa.gov>
Cc: Overstreet, Anne <overstreet.anne@epa.gov>; Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>; Bohnenblust, Eric <Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Final OPP Update

Thanks Bob. I was able to work with OCSPP to make those two changes.

For both BPPD and FEAD: What is the plan for getting the permit and supporting materials into the docket? I believe the listserv is going out this morning and e links to the docket. If the documents can't get into the docket today, how and what will be made publicly available?

From: McNally, Robert <McNally.Robert@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 01, 2020 9:07 AM
To: Overbey, Dian <Overbey.Dian@epa.gov>; Siedschlag, Gregory <Siedschlag.Gregory@epa.gov>
Cc: Overstreet, Anne <overstreet.anne@epa.gov>; Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>; Bohnenblust, Eric <Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov>; Keigwin, Richard <Keigwin.Richard@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Final OPP Update
Importance: High

NEED TO CHANGE MAY 2020 TO SUMMER 2020. I apologize for not catching this.

rom: Overbey, Dian <Overbey.Dian@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 01, 2020 9:02 AM
To: McNally, Robert <McNally.Robert@epa.gov>
Cc: Overstreet, Anne <overstreet.anne@epa.gov>; Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>; Bohnenblust, Eric <Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Final OPP Update

Today, after extensive evaluation of the best available science and public input, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has granted an experimental use permit (EUP) to Oxitec Ltd. to field test the use of genetically engineered *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes as a way to reduce mosquito populations to protect public health from mosquito-borne illnesses.

To meet today's public health challenges head-on, the nation needs to facilitate innovation and advance the science around new tools and approaches to better protect the health of all Americans. **After all appropriate**

approvals are garnered, EPA looks forward to receiving field test results regarding the effectiveness of this promising new tool that could help combat the spread of mosquito-borne diseases like the Zika virus.

The EUP is designed to test the effectiveness of genetically engineered *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes as a way to reduce mosquito populations in a controlled environment with appropriate safeguards as a first step to potentially wider use in the United States. The company must receive state and local approval before proceeding with field testing.

Oxitec's carefully developed field tests will be conducted over a two-year period in Monroe County, Florida, beginning in May SUMMER 2020, and in Harris County, Texas, beginning in 2021, IF APPROVED BY STATE AUTHORITIES.

During these field tests, Oxitec will release into the environment male mosquitoes genetically modified to carry a protein that will inhibit the survival of their female offspring when they mate with wild female mosquitoes. The male offspring will survive to become fully functional adults with the same genetic modification, providing multi-generational effectiveness that could ultimately lead to a reduction in *Aedes aegypti* mosquito populations in the release areas. EPA anticipates that this could be an effective tool to combat the spread of certain mosquito-borne diseases like the Zika virus in light of growing resistance to current insecticides.

Since only male mosquitoes will be released into the environment and they do not bite people, they will not pose a risk to people. It is also anticipated that there would be no adverse effects to animals such as bats and fish in the environment.

Oxitec is required to monitor and sample the mosquito population weekly in the treatment areas to determine how well the product works for mosquito control and to confirm that the modified genetic traits disappear from the male *Aedes aegypti* mosquito population over time. EPA has also maintained the right to cancel the EUP at any point during the 24-month period if unforeseen outcomes occur.

To read EPA's decision and the approved permit, go to: [Insert link]

From: McNally, Robert <McNally.Robert@epa.gov>

Sent: Friday, May 01, 2020 9:00 AM

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Cc: Overstreet, Anne <overstreet.anne@epa.gov>; Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>; Bohnenblust, Eric <Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov>

Subject: Final OPP Update

Can you send me?

Thanks